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January 24, 2012

Mr. Corbin R. Davis Clerk, Michigan Supreme Court P.O. Box 30052 Lansing, MI 48909

RE:

ADM 2010-22 and MRPC 7.3

Family Law "Trolling"

Dear Mr. Davis:

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I am sending this letter to support the proposed Michigan Court Rule amendment of ADM 2010-22 a/k/a the "Anti Trolling Proposal." I am a Michigan attorney who practices almost exclusively in the area of family law and have done so throughout the state. I have not seen the issue as a problem in the area of Kalamazoo, where I currently practice. yet. I very much hope that I do not because I have less than fond memories of experiences of the issue this proposed amendment seeks to prevent from my previous years of practice in Oakland County.

I write this letter in support of the proposed amendment for a variety of reasons, but primarily as a means of preventing growth of the distasteful practice of attorneys trolling court files in search of new potential clients.

Divorce is a sensitive issue for many, but certainly for the "defendant". These automatic letters do not take into consideration that this new divorce filing may involve a family where domestic violence, mental illness, financial abuse and/or substance abuse are issues of concern. Among other concerns, these issues have the potential to erupt into devastating results should the case be invaded by some unfamiliar third party alerting one spouse of his or her emergent need to "protect your rights!"

Fear is a predominant factor in family law cases that can have devastating effects. The rule as proposed has thoughtfully considered many of these situations and put absolute minimum limitations in place in an effort to balance some of the opposing concerns.

Sincerely,

Gail M. Towne